



Alaska State Legislature

1971

Source:

SCR 25 am

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 25

Relating to certain editorial practices.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

WHEREAS representatives of the press this session have reported legislative activity in a commendably fair, factual and competent manner; and

WHEREAS upon occasion their copy has undergone editorial revision which so distorts the actual circumstances that the public is denied news to which it is entitled; and

WHEREAS such distortions tend to further polarize into extremes those vitally concerned with issues crucial to the well-being of Alaska; and

WHEREAS it is especially important at this time that Alaskans evidence consensus to the maximum possible degree on these issues if we are to persuade the nation that we are competent to handle our own affairs; and

WHEREAS a major consensus cannot be achieved unless Alaskans are exposed to all facts related to issues rather than only those supporting a predetermined editorial position; and

WHEREAS attempts by legislators to respond to false charges, clarify distortions or supply omissions have upon occasion been negated by editing or failure to print legislative letters to the editor; and

WHEREAS an independent press, free to make vigorous criticism is the foundation of our way of life and the legislature

welcomes such criticism, but that fact does not warrant the distortion of news other than on the editorial page;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Seventh State Legislature urges that this lamentable editorial practice cease.

A COPY of this resolution shall be sent to the Anchorage Daily Times.